

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A combination of piston and piston ring ~~comprises~~includes a piston having a piston ring groove in which at least the groove portion of the piston is made of steel, a piston ring made of cast iron and fitted into the piston ring groove, and a hard coat film formed to at least an outer peripheral sliding surface of the piston ring.